

The Brookings Institution

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Dear Marcia,

This morning I received a call from your agency informing me that a better qualified applicant had been accepted. Congratulations. I shall keep in touch with you though. I recently gave a presentation before the Washington chapter of the Middle East Studies Association on confessional and communal relations in Kuwait. I will also send you a draft of the paper I am revising on the Society for Social Reform in Kuwait (I will probably finish it in a month). I think you will be especially interested in the latter.

It is unfortunate that the long application process amounted to nothing, although I must admit that the personnel office gave me the impression of disorganization and lack of professionalism in executing it. The office informed me of not keeping appointments that I was not notified of. I arrived for an appointment scheduled at 8:00, but was informed that it was to be at 11:30 instead. (The receptionist expressed surprise that I could not wait that long!). During the first appointment, after having fasted and gone through a medical check-up, I was informed of an unscheduled three-hour appointment afterwards. Although I requested the personnel officer assigned to me to handle all business through the mail in confirming and scheduling appointments, I received telephone messages which I could not answer because of the difficulty in getting through her line. On the other hand, when I did get through, my messages were not returned. It's not that I personally mind these inconveniences, but that my office schedule does not allow me to saunter three hours in a lobby and so forth. Perhaps some improvements can be recommended.

Well, so much for that. By the way, I discovered that I have an extra copy of that hardback Uzbek grammar which I loaned your group. I can sell it for \$3.60. If you would like to purchase it, just send a check back with the softcover book. I'll be looking forward to any comments you have on the 'Society for Social Reform Paper' after I send it to you.

Sincerely,



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